

Mr. Hemphill's conclusions, as shown in the study collection received from him, would be, in the grouping of the west coast *Thais*, as follows: *Purpura lapillus* L.; var. *ostrina* Gld., *P. var. emarginata* Desh., *P. var. saxicola* Val., *P. var. lima* Mart., *P. var. septentrionalis* Rve., and *P. var. crispata* Rve. Variations, globose, banded, etc., and color-variations very naturally are grouped under each named variety, and present a series of variations typical of the painstaking that has always been accorded this veteran conchologist of the Californian coast.

FURTHER NOTES ON ASIATIC VIVIPARAS IN CALIFORNIA.

BY HAROLD HANNIBAL.

IN THE NAUTILUS, V, 1892, p. 114 and VI, 1892, p. 51, W. M. Wood reported *Paludina japonica* from the Chinese markets of San Francisco. The writer has had an opportunity to examine some of these specimens in the collection of W. S. Raymond, and they prove to be *Viviparus malleatus* Rve., having been compared with *malleatus* received under that name from Frederick Stearns at a time when the Japanese Viviparas were less known than at present. Stearns (NAUTILUS, XV, 1901, p. 91) reported *V. stelmaphora* (= *malleatus*) sent by Mrs. A. E. Bush, a shell enthusiast now dead, "from seven or eight miles from San José" (probably in the Artesian Belt), and "a little valley at the foot of Mount Hamilton." The latter locality is probably erroneous; it has not been verified, and the specimens seem to have passed through several hands. In 1908, the writer (NAUTILUS, XXII, p. 33) noted *V. lecythoides* from the Artesian Belt between San José and San Francisco Bay. Comparison with specimens from Nagasaki, Japan, proves this also to be *malleatus*, and it is figured under that name in the 1910 edition of West American Shells, Pl. iii, fig. 8.

It is abundant at a number of points in the Artesian Belt since this was at one time an extensive berry district where celestials were employed. The species was brought from Yokohama and originally planted between Alameda and Centerville to supply the markets about San Francisco Bay where they bring 20 cents a dozen according to Wong, a Chinese merchant, whence colonies have been dis-

tributed to a number of points in the Sacramento-San-Joaquin Valley as well. This is verified by specimens from an irrigating ditch near Fresno received from C. E. Jenney. It may be expected to turn up elsewhere.

A few days ago on a visit to the Coalinga Oil Fields a lengthy wait at Hanford was necessary to make train connections. While other passengers sat about with bored expressions or searched the town for amusements, the writer welcomed it as an opportunity to go forth in search of the elusive snail and walked out of town about half a mile east to a dry irrigating ditch. This had recently been prolific of molluscan life, and while scratching in the dried weeds for *Pisidia* a specimen of another *Vivipara* was found. *Pisidia* were forgotten and a systematic "muckraking" of every weed up and down the ditch for a hundred yards was only interrupted by the roar of the coming train. The spoils proved to be *Vivipara japonica* Mart., a number of which were still alive, though the ditch from all evidences had been dry for months.

V. japonica may be readily distinguished from *malleatus* by its sharper more acute spire, flatter whorls and fine spiral striae instead of the four lines of revolving punctures. The carinate base is usually retained throughout life while in all introduced *malleatus* seen it becomes obsolete before maturity is reached.

The Japanese, who are also fond of these, call them Tanisha or rice snails.

Pilsbry and Johnson (NAUTILUS, VII, 1894, p. 144) note that Taylor reports *Paludina japonica* (= *Vivipara*) from the Chinese markets of Victoria, B. C.

NEW JAPANESE NATICIDAE AND SCALARIIDAE.

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY.

Polinices pila, n. sp.

The shell is umbilicate, globular, with a short, conic spire; brown with lighter streaks, and partially covered with a very thin cuticle, worn from the back, which is somewhat flesh-colored. The surface is smooth except for fine, faint growth-lines which are strongly re-